

Unit 163 Board Meeting Minutes
Via zoom 10:45 AM
January 24, 2025

Board members present: Keith Sutherland, Lynda Kuehn, Penny Gillon, Maureen Busta,
Tournament Coordinator: James Jurgenson

Sending Regrets: Martha Peterson

1. Motion by Jurgenson, seconded by Sutherland to approve the minutes of September 13th, 2025. Motion passed.
2. Motion by Kuehn, seconded by Jurgenson to approve Treasurer's Report. Motion passed. Sutherland will submit a budget for 2026 which the Board will vote on by email. Sutherland created an incentive payment chart which was reviewed by the Board and Keith was complimented for his excellent work.
3. The Board accepted the resignation of Debra Woodhouse as Vice-President and Area 1 Representative with regret. The Board is grateful for Deb's service to the Unit. A new slate of Board members will be needed in the coming year. President Busta will set up a zoom meeting with all Club Managers and Board members to discuss options. Board members were also asked to work with their individual Clubs to secure Candidates.
4. Motion by Sutherland, seconded by Kuehn to add the position of Tournament Coordinator to the list of Unit 163 Board members. Motion carried. Unit 163 Policies and Procedures was updated to reflect this change.
5. The Board is grateful to Vickki Shelley for her Unit 163 work most recently the scheduling of games and Communications liaison with the Club Managers. Carol Panzer will be the liaison with the Club Managers and Mary Ann Boardman will be scheduling the Unit Championship and Charity games. Members and Club Managers are asked to refer to the Unit 163 Website: website bridgeunit163 for information. Thank you, Mary Ann, and Carol.
6. Website Manager - Carol Panzer is continuing to do this. Thank you Carol. She has some concerns going forward regarding who will serve in this capacity after her. Basically there are three options: 1) Do nothing; leave things as is, and whatever happens, happens. BUT I will regularly send a backup copy of the website to a designated person. 2) Move the domain name to a separate account, so that the unit will have control over it. 3) Move both the domain name and the website to a separate account. It was decided that Keith would look into other options besides a website (acbl, etc.) and President Busta will call a meeting of the Club Managers and Board members to discuss options. Please visit the website at <https://www.bridgeunit163.com/>
7. A motion to approve the Policies and Procedures for Tournaments was tabled and a vote by email will be conducted.

8. Motion by Kuehn, seconded by Jurgenson to approve the Policies of the Iowa State Bridge League(ISBL).
9. It was suggested that Facebook be used for our video meeting. Due to technical difficulties, zoom was used instead.

The following is information from the monthly Unit President's meeting with the ACBL Executive Director.

1. 555 program <https://www.acbl.org/555program/> All Board members and Club Managers are encouraged to reach out to their members for renewals to acbl. Maureen will visit with the Club Managers by zoom about this.
2. Guest memberships - No access to the Bulletins. How do people choose to be full members? Offering free play for a team game at a Tournament.
3. Tournament flyers for each Club Manager. Jim will be printing and mailing 10 flyers for each Tournament to all of the Club Managers.
4. Sectional Tournaments - think about adding Grassroot games (2 sessions max) to your Tournaments which will add \$1 for each player; however, MPS will increase by 28%. 80% will go back to District to support GNT. Do you want the Unit to provide this money.
5. Sapphire Program - positive reinforcement for new players
6. Party for lapsed members to encourage rejoining acbl
7. Check out the menu item on ACBL website for YouTube Videos
8. Awards will be sent to individuals by email. Is a separate Awards Ceremony recommended. Maureen will discuss with the Club Managers.
9. Eight is Enough games at the local clubs is recommended.

Next Meeting: March 28th, 2026

10:30 AM

Respectfully, Submitted

Maureen Busta